



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

October 25, 2006

Reply to
Attn Of: OWW-135

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Final Agency Review; Region 10 Concurrence with the 2006 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan

FROM: Michael F. Gearheard *MFGearheard*
Director, Office of Water and Watersheds

TO: Benjamin H. Grumbles
Assistant Administrator for Water

Region 10 concurs with comment on the final 2006 Effluent Guidelines Program Plan. This concurrence was also provided during the Final Agency Review meeting held on October 18, 2006, and represents the position of Ronald Kreizenbeck, Region 10 Acting Regional Administrator.

Region 10 offers the following comment on the final Plan: The Region requests that consideration be given during the upcoming planning cycle to review the Oil and Gas Extraction Point Source Category (40 CFR Part 435), specifically the Coastal Subcategory (Subpart D), regarding the limitations applicable to Cook Inlet, Alaska (exception to no discharge limitation requirements). Significant environmental, economic, and technological changes have occurred since the last review of the guideline which the Region believes warrants additional review. During the ongoing reissuance of the Cook Inlet Oil and Gas General Permit, the Region continues to hear strong support from tribal and environmental stakeholders around Cook Inlet that the effluent guideline as it applies to Alaska should be reviewed in light of recent information.

If you have further questions regarding our comment you can contact me at (206)553-7151, or Mike Lidgard, Region 10 NPDES Permits Unit Manager at (206)553-1755.